



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Education Professional Standards Board

COPY: EPSB Education Partners
EPSB Staff

FROM: Phillip S. Rogers, Executive Director

DATE: October 1, 2008

SUBJECT: October 2008 EPSB Update

Mission Statement

The Education Professional Standards Board promotes high levels of student achievement by establishing and enforcing rigorous professional standards for preparation, certification, and responsible and ethical behavior of all professional educators in Kentucky.

Worth Remembering

“Changing a curriculum is like moving a cemetery – until you try it, you will never realize how many friends the dead have.” – Author unknown

STEM Task Force Update

As you probably know, the 2008 General Assembly established the STEM Task Force ([SB2](#)). I serve on the STEM Task Force Steering Committee and have also agreed to chair a workgroup that is developing recommendations regarding ways to improve recruitment and preparation of teachers within the STEM disciplines. The task force is responsible for developing a strategic plan that includes measurable benchmarks. The plan is to be presented to the Interim Joint Committees on Appropriations and Revenue and Education by December 30, 2008.

Certainly the work of the EPSB Elementary Math Task Force, although narrower in scope, will inform the work of the STEM Task Force. Also it is important to note that the STEM Task Force will provide another venue for those recommendations from the EPSB Elementary Math Task Force, specifically those recommendations outside the purview of the EPSB but important to the effective implementation of the recommendations adopted by the board.

Certification Task Force (CTF) Update

The CTF had its first all-day meeting in early September, with the second meeting planned for October 10. The group discussed the many background issues leading to the formation of the

group and began working on gathering materials from all stakeholders. To this end, a brief survey was sent to superintendents, HR directors, principals, and university personnel who work with certification issues. The data from the survey will be used to compile a comprehensive list of recommendations that will be presented to the EPSB. You will find minutes of the CTF meetings at: <http://kyepsb.net/boardinfo/committeeminutes.asp>.

Certification Information Sessions Continuing Statewide

Director of Certification Mike Carr is continuing the series of general information sessions for human resources personnel. The 3 hour program, a joint venture of the EPSB and education cooperatives, has been presented in areas served by OVEC, SE/SC, KEDC, and WKEC. The next session is planned for the GRREC area on October 29. Interested persons may contact the Green River Co-op office for registration details. There is no cost for the session.

Speaking at Murray State University

I will be speaking at Murray State University on October 20th and 21st. I appreciate the opportunity to speak to teacher and principal candidates, as well as the faculty. Should any other deans or chairs get as desperate as Murray State, please give me a call – I would love to visit your campus.

Accreditation Visits, Etc.

The Division of Educator Preparation will participate in two accreditation visits in October. Both are NCATE/State visits to Murray State University and the University of Louisville. They are continuing visits for both institutions.

- Midway College Pre-Visit October 24
- Continuous Assessment Review Committee meeting October 13

NCATE Unit Accreditation Board

Marilyn Troupe will be attending the NCATE Unit Accreditation Board (UAB) meeting in Washington, D.C., this month. Joining her this year will be Dr. Verna Lowe, Chair of the Department of Education at Asbury College. During the week board members review the Board of Examiners reports for institutions that received an accreditation visit during the spring 2008. The UAB will make accreditation decisions for all institutions reviewed. There are no Kentucky institutions up for consideration at this meeting.

Regulations Update

The Interim Joint Education Committee reviewed [16 KAR 5:020](#), Standards for Admission to Educator Preparation on September 8, 2008, at its monthly meeting. The regulation became effective at the end of the meeting.

On September 9, 2008, the amendments to [16 KAR 3:050](#), which contain the tenets of the principal preparation program redesign, were reviewed by the General Assembly's Administrative Regulation Review Subcommittee (ARRS). Alicia Sneed, Dr. Marilyn Troupe, and Mike Carr represented the EPSB at the committee's testimony table. This regulation will be forwarded to the Interim Joint Education Committee for consideration in October and should become effective in early November.

NASDTEC Professional Practices Institute

Three of the EPSB's prosecuting attorneys—Alicia Sneed, Gary Stephens, and Jason Rothrock—will be attending the NASDTEC Professional Practices Institute in St. Louis in October. The institute, which runs from October 29 through October 31, is a professional development seminar devoted to ensuring that unethical and dangerous individuals are removed from the teaching profession. This year's institute, "Shared Responsibility: Safety from Within," will have sessions focused on assessing witness credibility, boundary training, securing forensic computer evidence, and interviewing child and adult victims. This event gives the attorneys a chance to interact with their counterparts from other states and improve their interview and trial skills.

EPSB Staff Gets a Chance to See our Lead Barrister in Action

The Legal Division, which usually conducts its work in closed meetings, recently conducted a disciplinary hearing in the EPSB board room. This hearing was open to the public at the educator's request. Several of us were able to watch the witnesses as well as the hearing officer testify and our own lead barrister, Alicia Sneed, in action. It was a good opportunity for the staff to see the great job our attorneys do out in the field.

Employee Appreciation Week October 8-12

During the week of October 6-10 we will recognize the outstanding employees of the EPSB. Our staff will be enjoying a free dress-down week along with lots of food and special drawings for gift cards (all provided by the leadership team). This is our way of saying "thanks" to all the great folks who make the EPSB the best agency in state government.

Meetings, Conferences, Etc.

October 1 – GRREC meeting
October 6/7 – KBE meeting
October 7 – SE/SC education cooperative meeting
October 8/12 – EPSB Employee Appreciation Week
October 9 – Leadership meeting
October 10 – Certification Task Force meeting
October 13 – Interim Joint Committee on Education meeting at WKU
October 15 – KEDC meeting
October 17 – 2nd Annual EPSB Executive Office KECC Chili Cook-off
October 18/22 – U of L accreditation visit
October 20/21 – Phil speaking at Murray State University (students and faculty)
October 21 – Education Coalition meeting
October 25/29 – Murray State University accreditation visit
October 28/30 – NASDTEC Professional meeting
October 28 – KTIP Task Force meeting
October 29 – OVEC meeting
October 29 – WKEC meeting
October 31 -- Collaborative Center for Literacy Development Advisory Council meeting